Acts. 141

Virtue of this Act And be it Enacted by the Authority Afores^d that Session if Any Action of Escape be brought against any Sherriff or any Laws Suit or Action be brought Against Any Justice or Justices for Performing their Office in Pursuance of this Act he or they may plead the General Issue & give this Act & the Special matter in Evidence if the Plantiff be nonsuit or discontinue his or her Action of Verdict Passed against such Plantiff or Judgment upon Demurrer the Deffendant shall have & recover double Costs Provided also that nothing in this Act shall Extend or be Construed to Extend to barr any Creditor or Creditors of the before mentioned Prisoners or any of them from having or Maintaining any action of Escape Against any Sherriff who hath Permitted any Escape before the Making of this Act Provided nevertheless that in Case the said Anthony Parker Patrick Ryley & Cleborn Lomax or any of them shall at Any time after the making such their Oath or Oaths or Takeing such Afirmation as aforesaid be Convict of Willfull & Corrupt Perjury thereupon or of a Willfull breach or noncompliance with the tenor of Such Oath or Affirmation as Aforesaid that then the p. 76 said Anthony Parker Patrick Ryley & Cleborn Lomax or Such of them as shall be Convicted as Aforesaid shall upon such Conviction Suffer Death without benefit of Clergy & the Estate or Estates of such Convicted Person or Persons shall Appertain to the use of the right Honourable the Lord Proprietary his heirs & Successors anything therein Contained to the Contrary notwithstanding. vided always that the Sherriff of Charles County shall be first Satisfied his Imprisonment fees out of the Respective Effects of the s^d Prisoners before any Other Creditor or Creditors shall have any Share of the Prisoners Effects & if the sd Prisoners Effects shall not be Sufficient To pay & Satisfie to the Sherriff his Imprisonment fees that then Each respective Prisoner shall After his Releasem^t Out of Prison be liable to Pay & Satisfie to the Sherriff the Residue of his Imprisonmt fees Provided that the sd Sherriff shall not Prosecute or Imprison Such Prisoners within two years after his releasm^t any thing in this Act to the Contrary notwithstanding Saving to his most Sacred Majesty his heirs & Successors the right Honourable the Lord Proprietary his heirs & Successors & all bodies Politick & Corporate & all Others not mentioned in this Act their Severall & Respective Rights.